Anthropological Survey of India

1703. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some stations were sanctioned to be set up by the Anthropological Survey of India during the Sixth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, what is the number of Field Stations set during the said period; and

(c) the reasons for the shortfall in the target, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir. Eight field stations were sanctioned in the last year of the Sixth Five Year Plan/beginning of the Seventh Plan.

(b) and (c) When details were worked out deficiencies came to light in terms of failure to identify field projects and provide for infrastructure and ministerial staff. There were delays in recruitment of personnel and difficulties in security accommodation. A Committee which reviewed the programme has since revised the concept in 1989 with field stations being staffed from Regional Centres and being made mobile. On this basis field stations are currently functioning.

New Environment Policy

1704. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce new environment policy;

(b) if so, what changes are proposed to be made in the existing policy;

(c) what are the main problems or flaws in the present policy; and

(d) by when the new policy is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The Government propose to issue, for the first time, an environmental policy statement as a part of our national conservation strategy.

Manufacture of Hi-tech components utilised by Defence sector

1705. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the manufacture of hi-tech components utilised in Defence sector;

(b) if so, whether any joint venture projects are proposed to be set up with foreign countries for manufacturing such high-tech components; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected.

Air and water pollution by industrial units in Orissa

1706. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases of air and water pollution by industrial units in Orissa which had come to the notice of Government during last three years;

(b) whether any specific steps have been taken by Government to check air and water pollution; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The Government of Orissa have identified 18 industrial units which are responsible for water and air pollution during the last three years.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Standards have been prescribed to the industries in their consent conditions by the State Pollution Control Board. They are required to conform to the prescribed standards. In case of defaulting units, legal action has been initiated.

Supply scandal involving officers of Army Supply Corps in Sri Lanka

1707. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of rampant supplies scandal involving top-ranking officers of the Army Supply Corps in its operations since Operation Pawan and subsequent IPKF missions in Sri Lanka; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are also aware that inquiries revealed bungling in purchase; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) to (c). Irregularities in local purchases of ASC items at Madras for supplies to IPKF were investigated by two Courts of Inquiry. The inquiries have blamed three officers for their acts of omission and commission and based on the findings, disciplinary action has been initiated against the concerned officers. As the matter has since come under the scrutiny of the High Court at Madras it has now become *sub judice*. Suitable instructions have also been issued to all concerned to avoid recurrence of such lapses.

Vacancies in top positions in Central Public Sector Enterprises

1708 SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 75 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th March, 1990 and state:

(a) what are the names of the Central Public Sector Undertakings in which 91 full-time Board level posts are lying vacant;

(b) whether the Public Enterprises Selection Board has drawn any time bound action plan to fill up these vacancies; and

(c) if so, by when all these vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) As per Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c). Guidelines for filling vacancies in the PSUs have been laid down. According to the prescribed procedure the Administrative Ministry/Deptt. is expected to initiate action six months prior to the occurrence of the vacancy, keeping in view about 2-3 months that the PESB may require to process circulation, receipt of nominations, short-listing and holding of the interviews. The PESB also writes at the beginning of the year, to the Ministries to take advance action on the vacancies during the year. This is followed up periodically. Out of the 91 posts lying vacant till 28th February 1990, the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) have since finalised their recommendations in respect of 70 posts, which are under consideration of the Government at various levels. The filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and at any point of time there are bound to be some vacancies due to sudden resignation, lateral movement etc.

Statement

1. Electronics & Technology Development Corpn.

2. Semi-Conductors Complex Limited.

3. Engineers India Limited